

channels has been calculated as Rs. 15.24 crores. Besides, a total of Rs. 1145.48 crores was also received under the Phase II of private FM radio scheme on account of One Time Entry Fee and migration fee.

Telecasting quality and popular programmes

936. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the revenue collected by Doordarshan from various serials is extremely low as compared to serials telecast on private channels; and

(b) if so, what are the observations of Government thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken for telecasting quality and popular programmes through Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Doordarshan is a public service broadcaster and is not motivated by purely commercial considerations. The details of revenue earned by private channels are not maintained by the Government. However, the overall revenue of Doordarshan including that from serials has increased during the last three years.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that in order to obtain quality software for its channels, the Self-Finance Commissioning scheme and Indian Classics programming have been introduced by Doordarshan. Further improvement is a constant and continuous exercise and Doordarshan continues to meet competition through appropriate initiatives.

Doordarshan Urdu Channel

937. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan launched in exclusive Doordarshan Urdu Channel, recently;

(b) the duration of the channels would be on air;

(c) the details of content in the channel;

(d) whether there are any specific programmes where there is more percentage of Muslim population; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The duration is 11 hrs. and 30 mins. as of now.

(c) Heritage, Culture, Literature, Health Information and Education.

(d) and (e) This language channels has considerable Muslim participation while maintaining the actual character of Urdu as a modern Indian Language and not the language of any single community.

Number of Doordarshan Kendras and Air stations in Jharkhand

†938. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Number of Doordarshan Kendras and AIR stations is lesser in Jharkhand comparing to the number of these Kendras in other States;

(b) whether any proposal for setting up new Kendras and increasing the capacity of present Kendras in the State is under consideration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The requirement of AIR Station and Doordarshan Kendras for various states are determined taking into account the demographic, social, linguistic and cultural diversities vis-a-vis the area of the state and the resources available. These requirement cannot be numerically compared. However, Jharkhand at present has 5 AIR stations and 2 Doordarshan Kendras covering the entire state.

(b) and (c) There is no scheme to set up any new Doordarshan Kendra in Jharkhand. But an additional Studio has been recently set up

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.